Mount Taylor Ranger District

Mount Taylor Management Area

Background and Description

The Mount Taylor Management Area is situated on the southern and eastern slopes of Mount Taylor, the highest peak within the San Mateo mountain range. The mountain is characterized by a number of life zones and vegetation types, providing a wide variety of flora and fauna. Engelmann spruce, Douglas-fir, and aspen are dominant at the highest elevations. As elevation decreases, the dominant vegetation type transitions to ponderosa pine, and eventually to pinyon and juniper. Horace Mesa and La Jara Mesa, which flank the peak on its west and northwest sides, are dominated by pinyon, juniper, and grasses. Oak and grasses are most prevalent, with some pinyon and ponderosa pine on Mesa Chivato, the expansive plateau to the north and east of the peak.

Mount Taylor is a composite volcano, thought to have been active several million years ago. The high points (the summits of Mount Taylor and La Mosca) are what remain of the original cone. The ridge between these peaks forms the western edge of the large caldera. Mount Taylor emerges as a prominent landmark on the Colorado Plateau. The long-range visibility and vast natural resources of this 11,301-foot mountain have attracted people to the area for millennia. The area contains many resources of significance to area Tribes, as well as other descendant communities.

The management area encompasses approximately 23,352 acres and its boundaries are delineated by the portion of the Middle Rio San Jose (1302020706) and Rio Paguate (1302020707) watersheds (hydrologic unit 5th code watersheds) that are on the Cibola. The headwaters of these watersheds provide the primary source of surface and groundwater for domestic and agricultural purposes for downstream users.

The Mount Taylor management area contains multiple natural, cultural, and economic resources of high value. The landscape contains a diversity of landform, riparian, and geologic features. The majority of the 6,358-acre Mount Taylor Inventoried Roadless Area is situated within the management area. Inventoried roadless areas provide clean drinking water, function as biological strongholds for populations of wildlife and threatened and endangered species, and provide large, relatively undisturbed landscapes with high scenic quality.

The management area contains suitable habitat, some of which has been designated as critical habitat, for the Mexican spotted owl, which is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. This species is commonly seen as an indicator of mature old-growth forests.

Mount Taylor is of particular importance to the American Indian Tribes in the area; all consider it a sacred mountain. The management area is situated within the Mount Taylor traditional cultural property. The traditional cultural property is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places based upon its traditional cultural significance to the area Tribes. Mount Taylor is a place where Tribes continue to perform ceremonial activities in accordance with traditional cultural practices, important in maintaining their identity and cultural continuity. The Mount Taylor Traditional Cultural Property covers 442,659 acres and encompasses a variety of land ownership, including Federal, Tribal, State, private, and land grant. The boundary of the traditional cultural property is reflective of the findings of the 2008 determination of eligibility report (Benedict and Hudson, 2008) and was delineated to follow as closely as possible the geographic features of the mountain, encompassing the whole of the landform (peak, plateaus and mesas) that is considered part of the mountain. Within the traditional cultural property boundary, numerous features tie directly to the significance of the mountain and illustrate its use for historic and

ongoing traditional cultural activities. The management area encompasses just over 5 percent of the entire traditional cultural property, and contains many cultural resources and use areas important to the area Tribes.

The Mount Taylor Management Area contains two eligible wild and scenic rivers. Much of Water Canyon (Water Canyon 1) is eligible under the "wild" classification for its outstandingly remarkable geologic and scenic values. Much of Rinconada Canyon is eligible under the "wild" and "scenic" classifications for its outstandingly remarkable wildlife population and habitat values.

The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail bisects the western portion of the area. The Gooseberry and Water Canyon trailheads provide access to system trails on the mountain. The nature and purpose of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail is to provide for high quality, scenic and primitive hiking and horseback opportunities and to conserve the natural, historic, and cultural resources along the trail corridor.

The management area contains the Microwave Ridge telecommunication site, which serves a variety of leaseholders, including Cibola County emergency services and the State of New Mexico Department of Information Technology.

Desired Conditions (MA-DC-MTT)

- 1. Cultural resources and traditional use areas important to Tribes are unimpaired and are visited by Tribes in an atmosphere of solitude and privacy.
- 2. This is a unique place where Tribes continue to perform ceremonial activities in accordance with traditional practices.
- 3. The area provides a functional ecosystem that contributes primary sources of surface and groundwater to communities for domestic and agricultural purposes and functions as a biological stronghold for Mexican spotted owl.
- 4. The scenic integrity is high in the majority of the management area, with small areas of very high, and one small area of moderate, and provides large, relatively undisturbed landscapes that appear essentially natural occurring and unmodified.
- 5. The area provides opportunities for remoteness and solitude, and a predominantly natural appearing environment.
- 6. Recreational opportunities, traditional cultural and spiritual practices by Tribes and local community members, and other activities and uses are compatible and serve to protect and continue cultural identity of these communities. Conflicts are infrequent.
- 7. Timber Canyon provides unique and intact geological features and evidence of volcanic craters.

Guidelines (MA-GDL-MTT)

- 1. The existing lease for the Microwave Ridge telecommunications site should be restricted to the authorized boundary. Tenants should be encouraged to co-locate with existing leaseholders.
- 2. No new telecommunications sites should be permitted.
- 3. Towers within the Microwave Ridge telecommunication site should not exceed the height limit set by the Federal Aviation Administration, thus avoiding having to light the towers.

- 4. Commercial plant collection should not be permitted except for Tribes.
- 5. The timing of permitted special events and management activities should be coordinated with neighboring Tribes.
- 6. If restoration activities are to occur in this area, they should be designed to promote the availability, abundance, and sustainability of traditionally important plants.

Management Approaches (MA-MGAP-MTT)

- 1. Cooperate with adjacent landowners to repair boundary fences to prohibit trespass livestock from accessing the area.
- 2. Collaborate with adjacent landowners to conduct restoration activities that will contribute to the overall health of the watersheds.

Little Water Canyon Management Area

Background and Description

The Little Water Canyon Management Area occupies about 4,779 acres in the Zuni Mountains. It has exceptional scenery and botanical value, including a biodiverse Colorado blue spruce forest with near-record size blue spruce trees tucked into the very deep, narrow, highly shaded Little Water Canyon. The canyon is about 20 acres in size and is adjacent to a stream that originates from a spring in the upper end of the canyon. This Colorado blue spruce forest—a relic of a bygone era when colder and wetter conditions prevailed in New Mexico—contains species such as water birch and red-osier dogwood, which are normally found much further north in New Mexico. The spring and stream are unique, as springs with a substantial flow are rare in the Zuni Mountains. The spring and stream, coupled with the vegetation, make the blue spruce forest extremely important wildlife habitat.

The waterway Little Water Canyon within this management area is MA is an eligible wild and scenic river reach of two miles, eligible for botanical outstandingly remarkable values and wild and scenic classification. The more restrictive management for this eligible wild and scenic river reach applies within the overall management area. Refer to the plan direction outlined in the Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers section of Designated Areas within this chapter.

The Little Water Canyon Management Area also contains six other plant associations that add to the overall biodiversity of the area. There is no sign of significantly altered plant community composition or any sign of significant erosion resulting from either current or historic livestock grazing. Very few nonnative plant species are present, indicating a relative absence of both current and historic human-caused disturbance.

The variety of plant associations and habitats add to the biodiversity present in Little Water Canyon Management Area. Plant species diversity is exemplified by at least five species of orchids. Avian diversity includes a mixing of birds in the southernmost portion of their ranges (orange-crowned warbler, MacGillivray's warbler) with birds at the northern end of their ranges (red-faced warbler).

Oso Ridge is a unique geological feature that creates microhabitats that contribute to the biodiversity of the area. Other geological features include examples of slickensides on Oso Ridge and fossils that include a nautiloid fossil.

Desired Conditions (MA-DC-LWC)

- 1. The area represents an outstanding biologically diverse area. The unique ecological and biological integrity of the Colorado blue spruce forest/red osier dogwood plant association represent a relic of colder and moister conditions and persists in a near pristine condition.
- 2. The area contains very few nonnative species and provides a high level of species diversity exemplified by species unique to this area (water birch, orchids, fish, and clams). Plant community compositions are unaltered.
- 3. The spring and stream provide substantial flows that are rare in the Zuni Mountains. The spring and stream, coupled with the vegetation, provide microhabitats that are extremely important to aquatic and wildlife habitat.

Standards (MA-STD-LWC)

- 1. Maintain the area as a primitive recreation opportunity spectrum class. No motorized or mechanized vehicles will be allowed in the area except as authorized for existing permits.
- 2. The area will be managed to preserve a very high scenic integrity objective as defined in the Scenery Management System.
- 3. Livestock grazing will be managed to maintain the high biodiversity of the area.
- 4. Restoration treatments (such as prescribed burning) will not occur unless these practices provide for maintenance of the unique biodiversity of the area.
- 5. No new roads or trails will be constructed or developed in this area.

Guidelines (MA-GDL-LWC)

- 1. Structures or water developments should be constructed only if needed to facilitate minimizing or mitigating existing livestock grazing impacts to the unique features of this area. If structures are constructed, they should include designs that meet scenic integrity objectives for the area as defined by the Scenery Management System.
- 2. Existing permitted livestock grazing should continue where consistent with other resource needs. New commercial uses (e.g., outfitter and guides, plant collection, fuelwood cutting) should not be permitted.
- 3. Mineral withdrawal should be maintained.
- 4. Mineral leasing may be permitted in the area, but surface occupancy should be excluded.

Management Approaches (MA-MGAP-LWC)

1. Collaborate with Federal, State, county, and local governments, universities, and partners to further investigate the unique biological diversity of this area. Work cooperatively to develop solutions to resolve conflicts.

Fort Wingate Management Area

Background and Description

The Fort Wingate Management Area occupies approximately 2,614 acres on the northwest corner of the Zuni Mountains, near the Fort Wingate Army Installation site located on National Forest System road 546. It has a unique historical and archaeological value dating back to 1935, when the Southwestern Range and Sheep Breeding Laboratory was set up by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The buildings were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003, known as the Sheep Lab Historic District. Each of these buildings, 14 of them, retain the integrity of their locations, settings, associations, materials, design, and workmanship. There has been little change to the buildings, the setting, or the landscape over time. It comprises a well-preserved cultural landscape, with

the buildings mentioned, and several water management and Navajo habitation features. The site retains the character of its time as an Indian New Deal era (John Collier) government-constructed facility. This whole area reflects the philosophy and social intent of a New Deal program, which was to improve sheep breeding and wool production, and to address the problems of overgrazing on Navajo land.

In 1966, the Sheep Lab closed as a research facility and was taken over by the U.S. Forest Service as the Gallup Ranger District office of the Cibola National Forest. In the 1970s, the ranger district office was moved to Grants, New Mexico, and the former Sheep Lab site is now used as a satellite work center and for the sale of fuelwood permits.

The area occupies a small valley and adjacent uplands that, to the north, overlook the valley of the south fork of the Rio Puerco of the West (Rio Puerco Valley and the Fort Wingate Army Installation) and the highly dissected, barren slopes of the Wingate Cliffs beyond. To the south, the forested slopes of the Zuni Mountains form a backdrop. Milk Ranch Canyon runs on the west side of the management area to the southwest. Water sources in the area consist of springs arising within Milk Ranch Canyon, including Santa Fe Spring. Bear Spring (known to the Navajos as "Shush bi'too") 1.2 miles northeast of the Sheep Lab Historic District. Vegetation in the Sheep Lab Historic District is dominated by pinyon-juniper woodland on the slopes and a thick growth of sagebrush and various grasses in the valley.

When considering the use, management, and maintenance of a historic site, it is essential to identify the site's character-defining features. These are defined as "a prominent or distinctive aspect, quality, or characteristic of a historic property that contributes significantly to its physical character. Structures, objects, vegetation, spatial relationships, view, furnishings, decorative details, and materials may be such features" (Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes; USDI National Park Service 1996b).

The important character defining features of the Fort Wingate Work Center/Sheep Lab include its spatial organization, circulation, cluster arrangement, view, buildings and structures, topography, and archaeological sites. The historical and natural environment is essentially unmodified since 1966, which has retained the Sheep Lab setting and the remote scenery that dominates the entire landscape; this site therefore retains a high scenic archaeological integrity. These collectively contribute to the historic character of the cultural landscape. A preservation maintenance plan has been completed.

Desired Conditions (MA-DC-FTW)

- 1. The historic facility and environmental conditions provide a role model of sustainable sheep and wood production for the Four Corners region. The area demonstrates the biological significance of unique genotypes of sheep (Navajo Churro Sheep) and the sustainability of the oldest, most continuous, cultural and agro-ecological practices of pastoral cultures in desert environments.
- 2. The archaeological integrity of the buildings and the Sheep Lab environmental conditions represents a setting and character reflective of the cultural landscape. It retains the character of its time as an Indian New Deal era government-constructed facility.
- 3. The area and activities reflect the philosophy and social intent of a New Deal program through living history demonstrations that showcase, inform, and educate people on sheep breeding, wool production, dyeing and weaving, and sustainable grazing practices.
- 4. The historical context of the Navajo heritage, language, customs, and ways of life, and U.S. Department of Agriculture design and workmanship of the facilities are preserved.

Guideline (MA-GDL-FTW)

1. Preservation and maintenance of the buildings and the Sheep Lab facilities should be conducted in a manner consistent with its listing on the National Register of Historic Places and the historic character of the structures so they can be occupied safely and still retain the historic integrity.

Management Approaches (MA-MGAP-FTW)

- 1. Collaborate with Federal, Tribal, State, county and local governments, universities, and other partners to preserve and promote restoration and maintenance of the Fort Wingate Work Center/Sheep Lab to economically stimulate the cultural base of the region including sheep and wool production and supporting fiber artisan weavers.
- 2. Reevaluate the Sheep Lab Historic District to determine its significance to descendant communities.
- 3. Consider Domestic sheep grazing should be allowed, as part of a demonstration of sustainable management and conducted consistent with sustainable practices to protect sensitive soils and wildlife habitat as well as providing documentation that there are no Big Sheep in the vicinity.

Magdalena Ranger District

Silver Hill Dark Skies Management Area

Background and Description

The relatively remote area outside of the Village of Magdalena, off National Forest System road 10, near Silver Hill provides amateur and professional astronomers with some of the darkest skies in the United States to observe stars, nebulae and galaxies. These activities are ongoing and increasing in popularity, and are facilitated by nearby astronomical and space facilities such as the Magdalena Ridge Observatory, the Langmuir Laboratory, Spaceport America, and the Karl Jansky Very Large Array. The observing area is a remnant of dark night skies in New Mexico where there is decreased levels of light pollution. The site has level terrain, is easily accessible by the public, and within 2 to 3 hours travel time from cities along the Rio Grande Valley from Albuquerque to Las Cruces. The site provides areas for viewers to enjoy dispersed camping and to be in proximity of supporting services in Magdalena.

Desired Condition (MA-DC-DRK)

- 1. The area provides an exceptional opportunity for the public to view the quality or dark, starry skies where consistent with other resource needs. The nighttime environment is promoted through recognition, conservation, and education about this limited resource.
- 2. Opportunities for users reflect remoteness representative of a sanctuary from the influences of artificial light. Visitors are provided opportunities to view nighttime conditions close to those before the introduction of electric lighting in the late nineteenth century.
- 3. Access for livestock grazing, firewood, and other traditional uses remain available to local communities where consistent with other resource needs.

Guideline (MA-GDL-DRK)

- 1. Management activities within the viewing area, including recreational development, should include mitigations to protect the area's dark sky values.
- 2. Best technology should be used to minimize light emission and light pollution during management project planning, design and implementation.
- 3. Star gazing activities should have a limited impact on other resources such as impacts to vegetation, wildlife habitat, and archeological artifacts.

Pueblo Migrations Management Area

Background and Description

The landscapes contain the Gallinas Springs Pueblo, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the complex at Lion Mountain, which is eligible for listing. Both sites are within the Bear-Gallinas Unit of the Magdalena Ranger District. These sites have been identified to recognize unique values associated with the pre-Columbian history of Pueblo peoples (including Zuni, Laguna, and Acoma) relative to the themes of migration and social history. The Bear-Gallinas area was a center of settlement for the ancestors of Pueblo peoples for thousands of years. With the decline of the ancestral Pueblo cultural centers of Chaco Canyon and Mesa Verde in the San Juan Basin to the north, new migrants flowed into the area in the 12th and 13th centuries A.D. Here they established villages and ceremonial sites in the Chaco and Mesa Verde style. The Lion Mountain complex is a district of dense ancient settlement unique to the west-central New Mexico region. It holds great potential for scholars seeking to understand social forces that led to the decline of Chaco and Mesa Verde, and the new lives that ancient Pueblo people forged prior to arrival of Europeans in the Southwest.

Desired Condition (MA-DC-PMI)

- 1. The area provides unique archeological resources that represent the migration and social history of Pueblo people prior to Europeans arrival in the Southwest and during the 12th to 15th centuries.
- 2. The area's settlements and ceremonial sites provide opportunities for scientific study, public interpretation, and traditional use by descendent communities where consistent with other resource needs.
- 3. Access for livestock grazing, firewood, and other traditional uses remain available to local communities where consistent with other resource needs.

Guideline (MA-GDL-PMI)

- 1. If multiple uses by the public are showing potential for damage to sites, mitigation efforts should be implemented (such as posting of signs, or other means of education) to protect important heritage resources.
- 2. Management activities in the area, including scientific and scholarly research of the area's archeological resources, should support the values and concerns of American Indian Tribes regarding their preservation.
- 3. Historic properties within the area currently listed as priority heritage assets should retain their priority heritage asset designation. Additional properties should be designated as priority heritage assets as additional information regarding their status and condition is available.

Management Approaches (MA-MGAP-PMI)

1. Work with Federal, Tribal, State, county, and local governments and partners to develop site plans, scientific studies, and educational and interpretive materials on the archeological resources and history of the area.

Mountainair Ranger District

Fourth of July Canyon Management Area

Background and Description

The Fourth of July Canyon Management Area is located in the northern Manzano Mountains, just west of the Tajique Land Grant on the Mountainair Ranger District. Every autumn, Fourth of July Canyon

becomes ablaze with red, yellow, and orange as fall colors adorn the hardwood trees there. Hardwood species include Bigtooth maple (Acer grandidentatum), Rocky Mountain maple (Acer glabrum), boxelder (Acer negundo), and Gambel Oak (Quercus gambelii). The maple species of the canyon are an important component of the Manzano Mountain ecosystem and play an important role in the area's biodiversity.

Early settlers celebrated holidays such as Independence Day with picnics in the canyon. Every year in September and October, forest visitors come to Fourth of July Canyon for hiking, scenic drives, or family picnics to enjoy the beautiful fall colors. This management area includes Tajique Creek, an eligible wild and scenic river with a "recreation" classification.

Desired Conditions (MA-DC-JLY)

- 1. The biodiversity of the area provides outstanding fall colors in large, dense stands of hardwoods (bigtooth maples, Rocky Mountain maple, boxelder, and Gambel oak).
- 2. Scenic integrity objectives of the area are met, and botanical biodiversity is maintained. Recreation opportunities for picnicking, hiking, and scenic viewing are retained in this management area.
- 3. Recreation opportunities are in balance with other resource needs.
- 4. Access for grazing, firewood, and other traditional uses remain available to local communities where consistent with other resource needs.
- 5. The area's values and history are shared through collaborative educational and interpretation.

Guidelines (MA-GDL-JLY)

- 1. Vegetation management should be designed to maintain resilient populations of hardwood species.
- 2. Vegetation treatments should be consistent with prescribed scenic integrity objectives as found in the Scenery Management System and should enhance recreation opportunities.
- 3. Treatments should provide fuelwood benefits to local economies when consistent with other resources and deter illegal firewood cutting in the area.
- 4. Road, trail, and recreation site infrastructure should provide adequate access for recreation and traditional uses where consistent with other resources.

Jumanos Pueblos Management Area

Background and Description

The Jumanos Pueblos Management Area is located near Mesa de Los Jumanos in the northwestern part of the Gallinas Unit. Three important prehistoric pueblo villages in this management area are associated with the Las Salinas Province (Pueblo Colorado, Pueblo de la Mesa, and Pueblo Blanco). Pueblo occupation of the area began in the mid-12th century and continued through the 17th century and Spanish colonization. It is believed that the people of these villages spoke Tompiro, an extinct language that may be related to the native languages of Isleta and Sandia Pueblos.

These villages consist of large masonry room block groups with kivas and associated middens or trash dumps. The pueblo inhabitants crafted colorful, high quality ceramics, which they used and traded. They subsisted primarily on agricultural crops (corn, beans, and squash), but also hunted game and collected wild plants. During this time, Las Salinas Province was a frontier area and the inhabitants interacted with ancestral Puebloan groups from the north and west and Plains Tribes from the east. Several smaller culturally affiliated sites are also located in the area.

Desired Conditions (MA-DC-JUM)

1. The area is valued for the preservation, interpretation, tribal uses, and scientific study of three important prehistoric pueblo villages (Pueblo Colorado, Pueblo de la Mesa, and Pueblo Blanco).

2. The archeological resources provide opportunity to understand the settlement patterns, agricultural practices and interactions during the frontier era between the Pueblos and Plains Tribes associated with the Las Salinas Province.

Guidelines (MA-GDL-JUM)

- 1. Natural resource management should focus on ecosystem restoration treatments that will complement and support the preservation of heritage resources and cultural landscapes.
- 2. If multiple uses by the public are showing potential to for damage to sites, mitigation efforts should be implemented (posting of signs, or other means of education) to protect important heritage resources.

Management Approaches (MA-MAP-JUM)

1. Work with Federal, Tribal, State, county, and local governments, and other partners to develop site plans, scientific studies, and educational and interpretive materials on the archeological resources and history of the area.

Cement Springs Civil War Historic Management Area

Background and Description

The Cement Springs Civil War Historic Management Area is located in southwestern part of the Gallinas Unit, just west of Gallinas Peak. Cement Springs was the site of a Union Army Cantonment. The historic site is best known for a skirmish, which took place there between the Union Army and the Mescalero Apache in 1862. Captain James "Paddy" Graydon initially met peacefully with Mescalero Chief, Manuelito, on the orders of Colonel Kit Carson. However, the peace did not last and Graydon's men killed Manuelito and almost a dozen other Mescaleros at the Cement Springs site.

The Cement Springs site contains two cultural components. The historic component consists of a cabin constructed of rock. The prehistoric component consists of a complex of room blocks with an associated artifact scatter.

Desired Conditions (MA-DC-CES)

- 1. The historic and cultural value of the site, and the role it played as a crossroads of culture, commerce, and conflict throughout human history is recognized and valued.
- 2. The architectural and other extant features of the site are structurally sound and are in good condition.
- 3. Opportunities exist for research, exploration, documentation, and preservation maintenance by volunteers interested in learning about the site.
- 4. Interpretive and educational materials provide visitors with a sense of the long period of human occupation and use of the spring, its significance, and the site's role in the events of 1862.
- 5. Cement Spring is free-flowing at its source, and supports riparian vegetation.

Guidelines (MA-GDL-CES)

1. Natural resource management should focus on landscape restoration treatments that will complement and support the preservation of the cultural landscape and cultural and historic resources.

Management Approaches (MA-MAP-CES)

- 1. Work with Federal, State, Tribal, county, and local governments, and other partners to explore opportunities for management and to share cultural and historical interpretation of the area.
- 2. Collaborate with the Torrance County Archaeological Society and the Mescalero Apache Historic Preservation Department to explore interpretive opportunities to highlight features at the site and address its long history of use.

Sandia Ranger District

Las Huertas Canyon Management Area

Background and Description

Las Huertas Canyon has been identified as a management area because it contains multiple resources and uses of high natural and cultural value. Las Huertas Canyon Management Area is located in the Sandia Ranger District and includes Las Huertas Creek, which is an eligible wild and scenic river, Sandia Cave, a national historic landmark, the designated Las Huertas Traditional Cultural Property, and developed and dispersed recreational opportunities. The protection of cultural values not only includes the Las Huertas Traditional Cultural Property but also the protection of various traditional uses. The Las Huertas Canyon and associated watershed historically has been significant to tribal and land grant communities for traditional resource collection of culturally significant plants as well as other culturally significant traditions. Restoration of Las Huertas Creek is vital to the continued protection of traditional uses, clean drinking water, acequia and other downstream water delivery, and a healthy watershed.

The Las Huertas Management Area extends from the intersection of Las Huertas Creek with the Sandoval County line in the north, continuing east to the crest of Apache Canyon, and to the west with Sandia Wilderness Boundary and to the north with the national forest boundary near Tunnel Spring and south to the Highway 537 (includes Palomas Creek and Sandia Cave).

Desired Conditions (MA-DC-LAH)

- 1. The Las Huertas watershed is restored with capacity to provide for multiple uses, clean drinking water and adequate water delivery for downstream users as consistent with other resource constraints. The watershed is functioning properly in order to maintain traditional practices.
- 2. Quality habitat for culturally important plants is retained as consistent with other resource constraints.
- 3. Access is available to sacred sites, the Las Huertas Traditional Cultural Property, and other locations of traditional uses for individual and group ceremonies, activities, and collection of forest products where permitted.
- 4. Sustainable recreation use for a variety of recreation opportunities is provided in a manner consistent with other resource protection goals.

Guideline (MA-GDL-LAH)

- 1. If restoration activities are to occur in this area, they should be designed to promote the availability, abundance, and sustainability of traditionally important plants.
- 2. Early coordination for proposed restoration activities should occur with traditional communities to identify, protect, and enhance culturally significant plants.

Management Approaches (MA-MGAP-LAH)

1. Integrate traditional knowledge into the onset of restoration project design such as traditional spring restoration.

- 2. Explore opportunities for collaborative partnerships with communities who have a historic or cultural tie to the landscape.
- 3. Identifying restoration activities to provide a setting for education of tribal youth in culture, land stewardship, and history.